Employees' Provident Fund deposits is decided by the Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund. Government have not received any proposal from the Board on the rate of interest for the year 2007-08.

(d) No date for the meeting of the Board has been fixed on this issue.

Amendment to Industrial Disputes Act

1789. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Industrial Disputes Act to accommodate a grievance redressal committee in the industrial units that have 20 or more employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) In accordance with requirement of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) that changes in labour laws must take place after consultation with the industry and trade unions, Ministry of Labour and Employment has held tripartite consultations and formulated certain draft proposals for amendment in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The draft proposals are at the stage of consultation with the Central Ministries/Departments.

Strikes by workers in public and private sector

1790. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is correct to say that the total number of strikes by the workers during 2006 in public sector and private sector are 111 and 329 respectively;

(b) if so, how do they compare with the total number of strikes during 2004 and 2005;

(c) what are all the broad causes for such strikes; and

(d) what are the extra steps taken to ensure industrial peace and good labour management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Labour Bureau, Shimla, which compiles the figures of strikes in the country, have furnished the following figures of strikes in public and private sector during 2004, 2005 and 2006:

Year	2004		2005		2006 (Provisional)	
	Public	Pvt.	Public	Pvt.	Public	Pvt.
Strikes	47	189	56	171	88	158